

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00841 251606 Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 EB-11 COME-00

TRSE-00 SY-10 CPR-02 STR-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 H-02 M-03 A-01 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6839

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0841

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: DA, EEC, OVIP (NORGAARD, IVAR)

SUBJ: NORGAARD VISIT

REF: STATE 76322; COPENHAGEN 649; COPENHAGEN 586

SUMMARY: EMBASSY GRATIFIED TO LEARN THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR
NORGAARD

VISIT PROCEEDING SO SMOOTHLY. GENERAL TENOR OF U. S. DANISH
RELATIONS HAS IMPROVED SUBSTANTIALLY SINCE NADIR AT END OF 1972,
BUT SOME BRUISES AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS ARE STILL NOTICEABLE.
MAJOR PURPOSE OF NORGAARD VISIT IS OSTENSIBLY TO DISCUSS US- EC
RELATIONS PREPARATORY TO HIS ASSUMING ROLE OF NEXT PRESIDENT OF
EC COUNCIL. HOWEVER, NORGAARD AND MOST OTHER DANES WILL BE
WATCHING CAREFULLY FOR ANY INDICATIONS OF US VIEWS ON COURSE OF OUR
FUTURE BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS. END SUMMARY.

1. WHILE MINISTER NORGAARD HAS TOLD US THAT THE PRINCIPAL
PURPOSE OF HIS MAY 2-4 WASHINGTON VISIT IS TO DISCUSS THE BROAD
SCOPE OF US- EC RELATIONS IN HIS CAPACITY AS NEXT PRESIDENT OF EC
COUNCIL, HE AND HIS GOVT HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY REGARD VISIT
AS IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY TO " WARM UP" DANISH RELATIONS WITH US.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 COPENH 00841 251606 Z

MERE FACT OF VISIT SHOULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD MAKING THE DANES FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH US, ALTHOUGH MANY OF THEM ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT ABSENCE OF US AMBASSADOR IN COPENHAGEN INDICATES WASHINGTON IS LUMPING THEM TOGETHER WITH SWEDES IN AN ANTI- U. S. CAMP.

2. NORGAARD MAY NOT WISH TO GO BEYOND VERY GENERAL BILATERAL DISCUSSION, BUT SOME SUGGESTIONS FOLLOW ON SUBSTANTIVE POINTS WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED WITH HIM IN BILATERAL CONTEXT. EMBASSY BELIEVES OUR EMPHASIS SHOULD BE ON BASIC REVIEW OF US- EC RELATIONS AND PROBLEMS FORESEEN DURING PERIOD OF NORGAARD PRESIDENCY. (EC BRUSSELS MAY WISH TO ADD FURTHER COMMENTS.)

3. WE SUGGEST THAT MEETING WITH SECRETARY BE OCCASION FOR REVIEW OF OVERALL STATE OF US- DANISH RELATIONS. SECRETARY COULD EXPRESS PLEASURE AT NOTABLE IMPROVEMENT IN DANISH ATTITUDES TOWARD US FOLLOWING VIETNAM CEASEFIRE AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT DANES WILL UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE US MOTIVES BETTER IN THE FUTURE. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE SECRETARY MAY EXPRESS HOPE THAT NORGAARD, IN HIS IMPORTANT ROLE OF EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT, WILL THROUGH HIS WASHINGTON TALKS OBTAIN A CLEAR PICTURE OF US INTENTIONS FOR THE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS AND THE IMPORTANCE US ASSIGNS TO HARMONIOUS RELATIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY. THE SECRETARY MAY ALSO WISH TO CITE THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THE US ASSIGNS TO EQUITABLE BURDEN SHARING WITHIN NATO ON DEFENSE.

4. WE ASSUME THAT PRINCIPAL FOCUS ON US- EC RELATIONS WILL BE IN TALKS WITH OTHER STATE OFFICIALS (E. G; UNDER SECRETARY CASEY, ASST. SECRETARY ARMSTRONG), SECRETARY SHULTZ, STR AND, IF APPROPRIATE, WHITE HOUSE. WE HEARTILY WELCOME NORGAARD EXPOSURE TO CONGRESSIONAL THINKING, PARTICULARLY CHAIRMAN MILLS AND, POSSIBLY, SENATOR LONG. IN THESE TALKS, WE CAN ASSUME STRONG NORGAARD BIAS TOWARD MAXIMUM LIBERALIZATION IN UPCOMING GATT TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, BASED ON TRADITIONAL DANISH FREE TRADE POSITION. HE WILL ALSO HAVE GOOD APPRECIATION OF US POSITION, BUT WILL LIKELY HAVE A SERIES OF QUESTIONS ABOUT US TRADE BILL, PARTICULARLY ON ITS SAFEGUARDS, WHICH HE AND MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF REPORTEDLY BELIEVE MAY COMPOUND NEGOTIATING PROBLEMS (I. E; BY CONFRONTING EC AND OTHERS WITH UNILATERALLY DETERMINED SET OF US SAFEGUARDS) AND CREATE PSYCHOLOGICALLY HARMFUL EMPHASIS ON PROTECTIONISM FOR NEGOTIATIONS INTENDED TO LIBERALIZE TRADE.
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PAGE 03 COPENH 00841 251606 Z

(FURTHER COMMENTS ON TRADE BILL, AT FONOFF STAFF LEVEL, ARE CONTAINED IN COPENHAGEN 586 AND MAY BE REFLECTED IN NORGAARD COMMENTARY AND QUESTIONS.)

5. NORGAARD WILL, HOWEVER, BE MORE INTERESTED IN FULL EXPOSITION OF US VIEWS ON TRADE POLICY THAN IN DEBATE ON FINE POINTS.

WITH DANISH GOVT' S LIMITED FOREIGN AFFAIRS ESTABLISHMENT ALREADY OVERWHELMED BY TASKS CONNECTED WITH EC MEMBERSHIP, BOTH NORGAARD AND HIS STAFF VIEW ASSUMPTION OF EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY, AT SUCH EARLY DATE AFTER JOINING, WITH CONSIDERABLE TREPIDATION. HE IS THEREFORE EAGER TO LEARN ALL HE CAN AND HOPES THAT LAST WEEK' S VISIT TO TOKYO AND HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT TO WASHINGTON WILL PERMIT HIM TO SPEAK WITH NO LESS AUTHORITY THAN COMMISSIONER SOAMES ABOUT US AND JAPANESE VIEWS ON MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO APPLY HIMSELF DILIGENTLY TO THIS TASK WHILE IN WASHINGTON. WE SUSPECT ALSO THAT THE HIGHER THE LEVEL OF HIS WASHINGTON EXPOSURE THE GREATER WILL BE HIS SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING OF US POSITION.

6. DANISH GOVT IS GOING TO CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO PREPARE NORGAARD FOR HIS VISIT. AMBASSADOR BARTELS HAS RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON TO PARTICIPATE IN BRIEFINGS. HE INFORMED CHARGE APRIL 24 THAT DANISH GOVT WAS CONVOKING AMBASSADORS OF OTHER SEVEN (LUXEMBOURG IS NOT REPRESENTED HERE) APRIL 25 SO THAT THEY COULD PASS ALONG TO NORGAARD ANY SPECIFIC VIEWS ON EC SUBJECTS WHICH THEIR GOVTS WOULD LIKE HIM TO REFLECT. NORGAARD WILL ALSO HAVE BENEFIT OF FOLKETING DEBATE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 27. BARTELS THOUGHT, AND WE AGREE, THAT ASST SECY ARMSTRONG' S DISCUSSIONS HERE HAD BEEN EXCELLENT PREPARATION FOR NORGAARD' S TALKS IN WASHINGTON.

7. ALTHOUGH COMPOSITION OF NORGAARD PARTY IS NOT YET SET, BARTELS INDICATED IT WOULD INCLUDE ERIK HAUGE, FORMER ECONOMIC COUNSELOR AT DANISH EMBASSY, AND, PERHAPS, SVEND ANDERSEN, ONE OF THREE GOVERNORS OF CENTRAL BANK. WE WILL FORWARD COMPLETE LIST AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE.
DUNNIGAN

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